

Maurice Hinchey NEWS

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HINCHEY SECURES \$200,000 FOR SAUGERTIES BEAUTIFICATION PLAN

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-26) today announced that, at his request, the fiscal year 2002 spending plan for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will include \$200,000 for the Village of Saugerties. The funds will be used to replace and improve streetlights as part of the village's larger beautification plan.

"The Village of Saugerties has a comprehensive plan for restoring its downtown area," said Hinchey. "I am happy to provide funds that will help them accomplish this in a way that maintains the area's historic character."

The Village of Saugerties has a nine-point beautification plan that, in addition to improving the street lighting, includes such projects as Main Street cleanup, parking lot repair, and tree revitalization. Eight blocks of the downtown area have been designated as a Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places. The beautification plan seeks to emphasize the area's historic features.

"We're doing everything in our power to bring life back to the village," said Mayor Robert Yerick. "The Village of Saugerties is very grateful to Congressman Hinchey for his continued support of our efforts."

Hinchey, who is a member of the House Appropriations Committee, requested that the funding be included in the bill that includes appropriations for HUD. A joint House-Senate conference committee is expected to complete work on the bill this week. The conference report must then be passed by both chambers before being sent to the president for his signature. It is not expected to encounter any significant obstacles.